THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Water Shortage in Tamil Nadu

5099. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of acute water shortage in Tamil Nadu and other parts of the country;

(b) if so, whether it is proposed to provide suitable financial assistance to Tamil Nadu for setting up treatment plants for making sea water into potable water;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) During the current year, as on 3.5.2002, the water availability in the live storage of 70 major reservoirs of the country being monitored by Central Water Commission representing 74% of the total live storage created in the country, was 22.9 Billion Cubic Metre (BCM) which is less than the last year's availability of 24.1 BCM as well as the average availability during last ten years of 32.6 BCM. In the six major reservoirs in Tamil Nadu—with combined live storage capacity of 4.39 BCM as against total live storage capacity of 6.76 BCM created in Tamil Nadu—the overall availability of water in live storages as on 3.5.2002 is 0.48 BCM, against the average availability of last ten years of 2.10 BCM and the last year's storage on the corresponding day as 2.03 BCM.

(b) to (d) Setting up of treatment plant for making sea-water into potable water for supply to rural areas can be taken up under Sub-Mission on "Control of Excess Brackishness". The powers to prepare project and implement such schemes has been delegated to the State Governments w.e.f. 1.4.1998, by Ministry of Rural Development. The proposal to provide suitable financial assistance for setting up treatment plant for making sea

water into potable water has not been received from the Government of Tamil Nadu.

Constitution of Ganga Management Board

†5100. SHRI MANOHAR KANT DHYANI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to refer to reply to Starred Question 410 given in the Rajya Sabha on 21st August, 2001 and state:

(a) whether any draft has been sent to the Government of Uttar Pradesh in the process of deliberations held in this matter between two State Governments on the 27th April, 2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of Uttar Pradesh Government thereon;

(c) whether Central Government will constitute a board by using the rights countered under the Act in case the State Governments fail for a year; and

(d) if so, by when and if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Subsequent to the inter-State meeting convened by Central Water Commission with Government of Uttar Pradesh and Government of Uttaranchal on 27th April, 2001, the Government of Uttaranchal in their draft resolution sent to Government of Uttar Pradesh on 26.5.2001 have *inter-alia* proposed splitting up the projects under schedules I, II and III as follows:—

The Schedule - I containing the canal systems to be coordinated by the Ganga Management Board (GMB).

Schedule - II containing the reaches of rivers under the purview of GMB but on which the States shall have exclusive right with in their respective territories to the non consumptive use of rivers; and

Schedule - III containing the points (Reservoirs/Canals) at which *status quo* as on 9.11.2000 on the distribution of waters among the States shall be maintained.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh has communicated its observations to the Central Water Commission stating that the draft resolution is not in

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.